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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US91/04507 (22) International Filing Date: 20 June 1991 (20.06.91) (30) Priority data: 541,757 21 June 1990 (21.06.90) US (71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: LERNER, Saul (US/US); 3050 North 36th Avenue #62, Hollywood, FL 33021 (US). (74) Agents: GREENBERG, Laurence, A. et al.; Lerner and Greenberg, P.O. Box 2480, Hollywood, FL 33022-2480 (US).		(81) Designated States: AT (European patent), BE (European patent), CA, CH (European patent), DE (European patent), DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FR (European patent), GB (European patent), GR (European patent), IT (European patent), LU (European patent), NL (European patent), SE (European patent). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: TOILET PAPER HOLDER <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> (57) Abstract <p>A toilet paper holder (1) comprises a body for supporting a roll (A) of toilet paper on a bathroom fixture (6); the body has a compartment formed therein for storing toilet paper (A) and an opening covered by a lid (4) for allowing access to the compartment.</p>		

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TOILET PAPER HOLDERBackground of the Invention:Field of the Invention:

The invention relates to a toilet paper holder and, more particularly, to a reservoir for storing emergency toilet tissue within a standard holder for rolls of toilet paper.

Description of the Prior Art:

In household situations, but especially in public toilets and toilets in industrial and commercial establishments, where many people use the same facilities, not everyone is considerate enough to replace an empty roll of toilet paper. Therefore, people may be inconvenienced by finding that such a roll is empty and no replacement roll is conveniently available.

Summary of the Invention:

It is accordingly an object of the invention to provide a toilet paper holder, which overcomes the hereinafore-mentioned disadvantages of the heretofore-known devices of this general type and which allows the storage of a certain amount of emergency toilet paper. It is ensured that, once the supply of tissue on the roll of toilet paper has been depleted, there is a sufficient amount of paper available in an emergency reservoir within the toilet paper holder.

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With the foregoing and other objects in view there is provided, in accordance with the invention, a toilet paper holder which comprises a body for supporting a roll of toilet paper on a bathroom fixture, the body having a compartment formed therein for storing toilet paper and means for allowing access to the compartment.

In accordance with another feature of the invention, the toilet paper holder body includes two ends and the means for allowing access to the compartment are in the form of a cap covering one of the respective ends.

In accordance with a further feature of the invention, the body includes a substantially cylindrical outer surface and the means for allowing access are in the form of a lid formed in the outer surface. In accordance with a concomitant feature of the invention, the means are in the form of a slit formed in the outer surface.

Other features which are considered as characteristic for the invention are set forth in the appended claims.

Although the invention is illustrated and described herein as embodied in a toilet paper holder, it is nevertheless not intended to be limited to the details shown, since various modifications and structural changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention and within the scope and range of equivalents of the claims.

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The construction of the invention, however, together with additional objects and advantages thereof will be best understood from the following description of the specific embodiment when read in connection with the accompanying drawings.

Brief Description of the Drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective, partly broken-away, exploded view of a first embodiment of the toilet paper holder according to the invention;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a standard bathroom fixture for holding the toilet paper holder of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 shows a second embodiment of the toilet paper holder; and

Fig. 4 is a side-elevation view of a second standard bathroom fixture for holding the toilet paper holder of Fig. 3.

Description of the Preferred Embodiments:

Referring now to the figures of the drawing in detail and first, particularly, to Fig. 1 thereof, there is seen a cylindrical toilet paper holder, or tube 1. The tube 1 has two halves or cylindrical portions 1a and 1b. The outer diameter of the portion 1b is slightly smaller than the inner

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diameter of the portion 1a. The portion 1b is partially inserted into the portion 1a.

A spring 2 is disposed within the portion 1a, as shown in the broken-away section of Fig. 1. The spring 2, which abuts against the non-illustrated end of the portion 1b which is inserted in the portion 1a, exerts a force on the portion 1b in the direction of an arrow 3. A non-illustrated stopping mechanism prevents the portion 1b from being pushed out of the portion 1a by the force of the spring 2.

A lid or cap 4 is placed on the portion 1b. The lid 4 shown in Fig. 1 has an inner diameter approximately identical to the outer diameter of the portion 1b. However, the reverse, namely that the inner diameter of the portion 1b is identical to the outer diameter of element 4, which would be a plug, is also possible, depending on manufacturing and design preferences.

A nipple 5, the center axis of which is coincidental to the longitudinal axis of the toilet paper holder 1, is disposed on the cap 4. A further nipple 5 is disposed on the distal end of the portion 1a.

The toilet paper holder 1 forms a reservoir or compartment inside the portions 1a and 1b. This reservoir is advantageously used for placing a quantity of toilet paper A inside thereof. This reserve toilet tissue may then be used in an

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emergency, such as when the main paper roll is suddenly found to be empty.

After the emergency paper is inserted into the toilet paper holder 1, the cap 4 is put on the portion 1b. A regular toilet paper roll is then slipped over the toilet paper holder 1, and this assembly is then attached to a standard bathroom fixture 6, as shown in Fig. 2.

The length of the fully extended toilet paper holder 1, with the cap 4 in place, is slightly greater than the width of the standard bathroom fixture 6, i.e. the distance from a sidewall 8a to a sidewall 8b.

The toilet paper holder 1 is engaged in the bathroom fixture by temporarily compressing the holder 1 against the force of the spring 2. Then the nipples 5 are aligned with the respective recesses 7. When the holder 1 is released, the spring 2 extends the holder 1 to its maximum length allowed by the distance between the walls 8a and 8b. The nipples 5 thereby engage in the recesses 7. Naturally, the force of the spring 2 is also transferred to the cap 4, so that it is securely held in place on the portion 1b.

A further embodiment of the invention is shown in Fig. 3. A toilet paper holder 9 has a cylindrical central portion 10. A slot opening 11 in the outer surface of the central portion extends along the length of the portion 10. Extra tissue A,

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which functions as emergency toilet paper in the afore-described sense, is inserted in the slot 11. End surfaces 10a and 10b of the cylinder 10 hold nipples 12 which attach the holder 9 to a bathroom wall fixture. The nipples 12 are shaped in the form of mushrooms or Ts, each with a stem portion 12a and a head portion 12b.

As indicated with phantom lines, the cylindrical surface of the holder 9 may further have a lid 10c offering better access to the inside compartment of the holder 9.

A bathroom fixture 13 to be used with the embodiment of Fig. 3 is shown in Fig. 4. A sidewall 14 has a cutout 15 into which the nipple 12 of the toilet paper holder 9 is inserted. The cutout width approximately corresponds to the outer diameter of the stem portion 12a. Accordingly, the lateral movement of the holder 9 is limited by the end surfaces 10a or 10b respectively and the corresponding head portions 12b.

Naturally, many possibilities exist for mounting the holder 1 on a fixture. Virtually all of the prior art mountings may be used with the holder of the invention.

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Claims:

1. Toilet paper holder, comprising a body for supporting a roll of toilet paper on a bathroom fixture, said body having a compartment formed therein for storing toilet paper and means for allowing access to said compartment.
2. The toilet paper holder according to claim 1, wherein said body includes two ends and said means are in the form of a cap covering one of said respective ends.
3. The toilet paper holder according to claim 1, wherein said body includes a substantially cylindrical outer surface and said means are in the form of a lid formed in said outer surface.
4. The toilet paper holder according to claim 1, wherein said body includes a substantially cylindrical outer surface and said means are in the form of a slit formed in said outer surface.
5. Toilet paper holder, comprising a body for supporting a roll of toilet paper on a bathroom fixture, said body having a compartment formed therein for storing an emergency supply of toilet paper and means for allowing access to said compartment for selectably resupplying said body with emergency paper and retrieving emergency paper.

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6. In a toilet paper holder assembly wherein a substantially cylindrical elongate body rotatably supports a roll of toilet paper on a bathroom fixture, wherein the improvement comprises: said elongate body having a compartment formed therein for storing an emergency supply of toilet paper and said body including means for allowing access to said compartment for selectably resupplying said body with emergency paper and retrieving emergency paper.

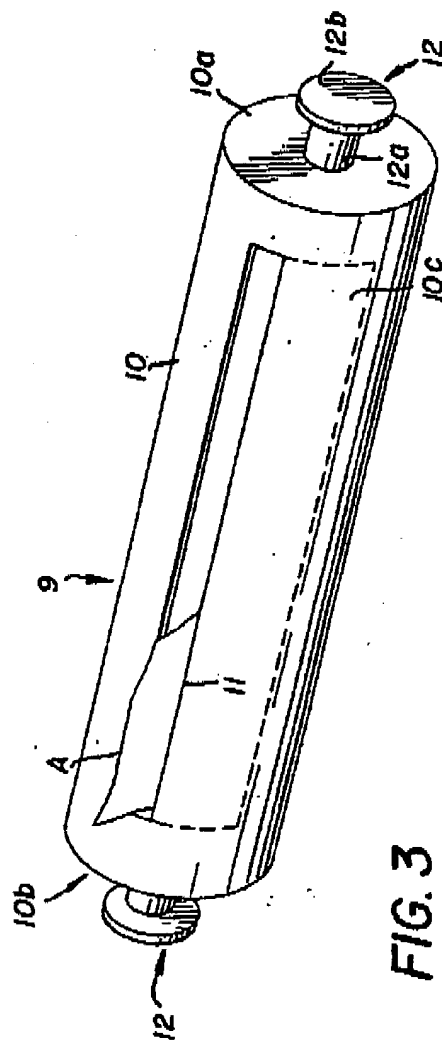
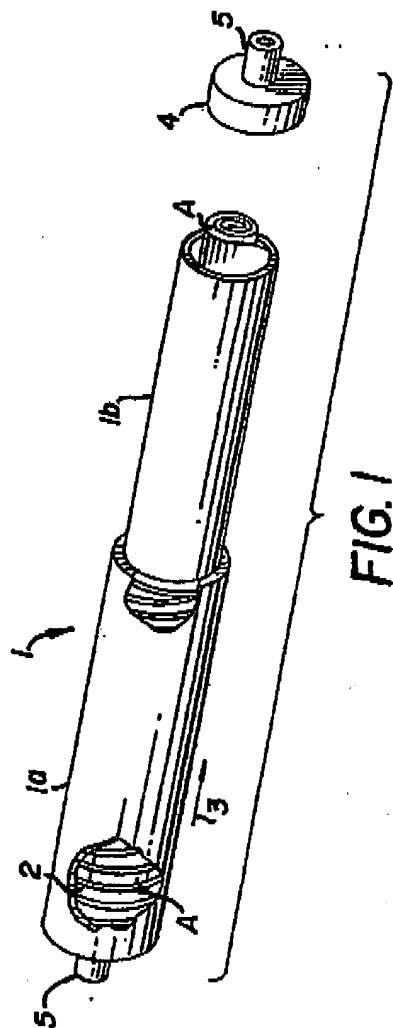
7. The toilet paper holder assembly according to claim 6, wherein the bathroom fixture has recesses formed therein and wherein the elongate body has nipples formed on the ends thereof for engaging in the recesses.

8. The toilet paper holder according to claim 1, wherein the roll of toilet paper includes a core onto which the toilet paper is rolled having a substantially cylindrical opening with an inner diameter, said body being substantially cylindrical and having an outer diameter, and wherein said outer diameter is smaller than the inner diameter for allowing said body to be inserted into the core of the toilet paper roll.

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FIG. 4

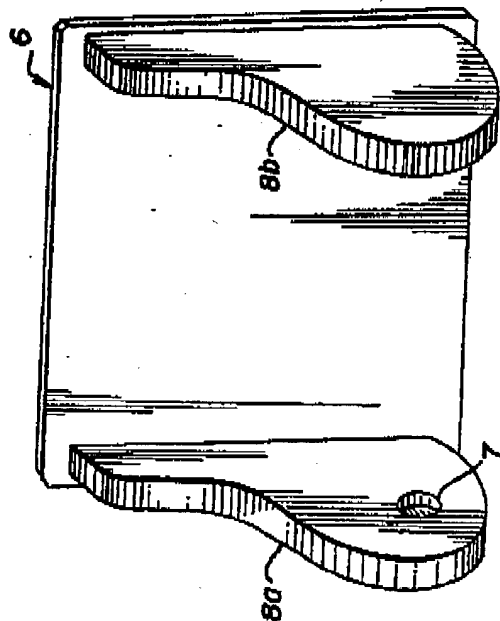
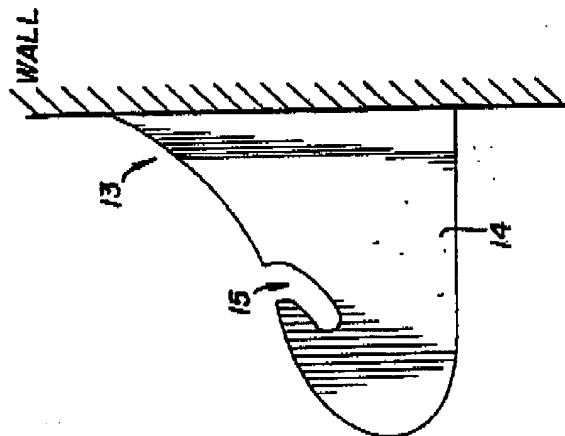


FIG. 2

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/US91/04507

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classification symbols apply, indicate all) *		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC		
IPC (5): B65H 19/14		
U.S. Cl.: 242/55.53		
II. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum Documentation Searched *		
Classification System	Classification Symbols	
U.S.	242/55.53, 55.55	
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III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT *		
Category *	Citation of Document, * with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages **	Relevant to Claim No. **
X	US, A, 4,113,195 (THEUNISSEN) 12 September 1978 See Fig. 1, col. 1, lines 50-68, col. 2, lines 1-11.	1-6
Y	US, A, 3,145,940 (HENY) 25 August 1964 See Figs. 1, 3, col. 1, lines 68-72, col. 2, lines 1-54.	7
A	US, A, 2,752,106 (THOMPSON) 26 June 1956 See Figs. 1-2, col. 1, lines 59-72, col. 2, lines 1-27.	1-7
A	US, A, 1,012,543 (HALLETT) 19 December 1911 See Figs. 1, 3, 4, col. 2, lines 50-68.	1-7
Y	US, A, 2,073,719 (ROSS) 16 March 1937 See Figs. 1-4 and col. 2, lines 1-39.	8
A	US, A, 2,224,470 (BOUST) 10 December 1940 See Figs. 1-2, col. 1, lines 36-56, col. 2, lines 1-49.	8
Y	US, A, 4,989,801 (THOMAS) 05 February 1991 See Figs. 1, 2, 6, col. 2, lines 48-68, col. 3, lines 1-37	8
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IV. CERTIFICATION		
Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search		Date of Mailing of this International Search Report
16 September 1991		03 OCT 1991
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ISA/US		John Q. Nguyen

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